

**TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 21, 2004 - 7:30 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2**

Members Present: C. Nado, R. Seager, K. Vaughn, E. Cole

Members Absent: R. Keyes

Staff: Vandenbosch, Vislosky

Chairman Nado called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Cole read the Call of the Hearing as it appeared in The Day. Cole was appointed a voting member.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearings opened at 7:33 p.m.

HDC 04-52 – 6 Fort Rachel Place; Rose Corbett Gordon, owner/applicant; for construction of shed. PIN #261806393415

Rose Corbett Gordon reviewed a site plan, photos, and sketches of the proposed 11'x16' shed. The shed will have vertical boards and the same three-tab shingled roof as the house. The Commission will send a letter to the Zoning Board of Appeals supporting the proposed location of the shed.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibits were submitted:

- Three photos
- Two sketches
- One plot plan
- Written description of shed location

HDC 04-53 – 193 High Street; Noank Baptist Group Homes, owner/applicant; for installation of air conditioning. PIN #261918311567

Don Gunther reviewed photos of the house noting that the air conditioning units will be located behind the house. Tubing for one of the units needs to be located on the side of the house, but will be hidden behind the downspout. The Commission was pleased with this alternative.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibit was submitted:

- One photo

HDC 04-54 – 287 Noank Road; Margaret Loughlin, owner/applicant; for construction of deck. PIN #261805283278

Josephine Beracha, representing the applicant, reviewed a photo of a fence that the applicant would like to use as the deck railing. The Commission did not believe the idea would work and suggested looking at traditional railings around Mystic. The public hearing was continued.

HDC 04-55 – 9 Water Street; Mystic Art Association, owner; Randall's Wharf Company, LLC, applicant; for relocation of dumpster and enclosure. PIN #261918308314

Todd Brady distributed and reviewed a packet of information explaining the relocation of the dumpster. The dumpster is better hidden from a public right-of-way in its new location. The Commission had no problem.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibits were submitted:

- One packet

Public hearings closed at 8:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 04-52 – 6 Fort Rachel Place

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Seager, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

HDC 04-53 – 193 High Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Cole, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

HDC 04-54 – 287 Noank Road

MOTION: To continue the public hearing to October 5, 2004.

Motion made by Seager, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

HDC 04-55 – 9 Water Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Vaughn, seconded by Seager, so voted unanimously.

PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Catherine Gouvin, 45 Pearl Street, reviewed photos of her house and sample picket fences. She wants a fence that will not conflict with the many details on the house. The fence will border her property along Pearl Street to create a private yard. The Commission recommended a standard wood picket fence and felt wide, flat board pickets would look nice.

Greg Laramie, representing the owner of 27-29 West Main Street, reviewed a plan showing improvements to the storefront. They plan to remove the brick, increase the glass size, lower sills, install wood doors, wood trim and clapboards or a similar material that could be painted. The doors will still be recessed, but not to the extreme that exists. The two retail doors would be the same and the residential door slightly different. Overall, the Commission liked what was being proposed. Discussion continued on the loss of the Greek Revival appearance over the years and asked if the owner would be willing to restore that look while improving the storefront. Laramie will discuss that option with the owner. In keeping with the Greek Revival theme that would create a separation, the Commission suggested three different doors to access the building and replacing the huge sidelights with transom lights. Laramie noted the sidelights were designed to address ADA requirements, but will review the alternatives that would still meet ADA requirements.

A second issue involves the relocation of a dumpster and its enclosure in the rear. The fire marshal has suggested this relocation because the dumpster is too close to the building. The new enclosure would be an 8-foot-high, tongue and groove fence. The Commission did not support the proposed location in an area that will impact a small public place. It is also highly visible from West Main Street. Discussion continued on alternative locations.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

MINUTES

On Page 4, second paragraph, remove the word “siding” from the tenth sentence.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of September 7, 2004 as amended.

Motion made by Seager, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. made by Seager, seconded by Cole, so voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elaine Cole, Secretary